WASHINGTON (June 15) – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) tonight issued the following statement following President Obama's speech from the Oval Office in the Gulf Oil Spill.

"Our absolute focus in the Gulf must be on stopping the spill, cleaning up the damage, and addressing economic losses. Entire livelihoods and the quality of our waters, beaches, and environment are at stake. BP must be held accountable, but the federal government's bureaucratic barriers to accelerating the cleanup have to be removed immediately, as I have stated in letters to the President and Governor Riley. President Obama's attention should be on the critical situation in the Gulf and shoreline states including Alabama, not on pushing 'cap and tax' or other costly energy proposals."